

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 (Cancelled)

Claim 2 (Currently amended) The methanol-reforming ~~eatalyst~~ method according to ~~Claim 3~~ Claim 21, wherein the contents of Ni and Al are respectively 77 to 95% and 5 to 23% with respect to the total element composition in wt%.

Claims 3-5 (Cancelled)

Claim 6 (Currently amended) The methanol-reforming ~~eatalyst~~ method according to ~~Claim 5~~ Claim 23, wherein the metal fine particles are fine particles of at least one of the metals of Ni and Ni_3Al .

Claims 7-8 (Cancelled)

Claim 9 (Previously presented) The methanol-reforming method according to Claim 21, wherein the methanol or the liquid mixture of methanol and water is brought into contact with the catalyst that is previously subjected to a hydrogen reduction treatment.

Claims 10-20 (Cancelled)

Claim 21 (Currently amended) A methanol-reforming method which comprises producing hydrogen by bringing methanol or a liquid mixture of methanol and water into contact with ~~the catalyst of Claim 3~~ a catalyst comprising an intermetallic compound Ni_3Al , characterized by being a powder or granule prepared by machining and mechanically polishing a melt-prepared ingot or in an atomization process.

Claim 22 (Cancelled)

Claim 23 (Currently amended) A methanol-reforming method which comprises producing hydrogen by bringing methanol or a liquid mixture of methanol and water into contact with ~~the catalyst of Claim 5~~ a catalyst comprising an intermetallic compound Ni_3Al , wherein carbon nanofibers containing metal fine particles are deposited on a surface of the Ni_3Al .

Claims 24-25 (Cancelled)

Claim 26 (Currently amended) The methanol-reforming ~~catalyst~~ method according to ~~Claim 5~~ Claim 23, wherein the contents of Ni and Al are respectively 77 to 95% and 5 to 23% with respect to the total element composition in wt%.

Claim 27 (Previously presented) The methanol-reforming method according to Claim 23, wherein the methanol or the liquid mixture of methanol and water is brought into contact with the catalyst that is previously subjected to a hydrogen reduction treatment.